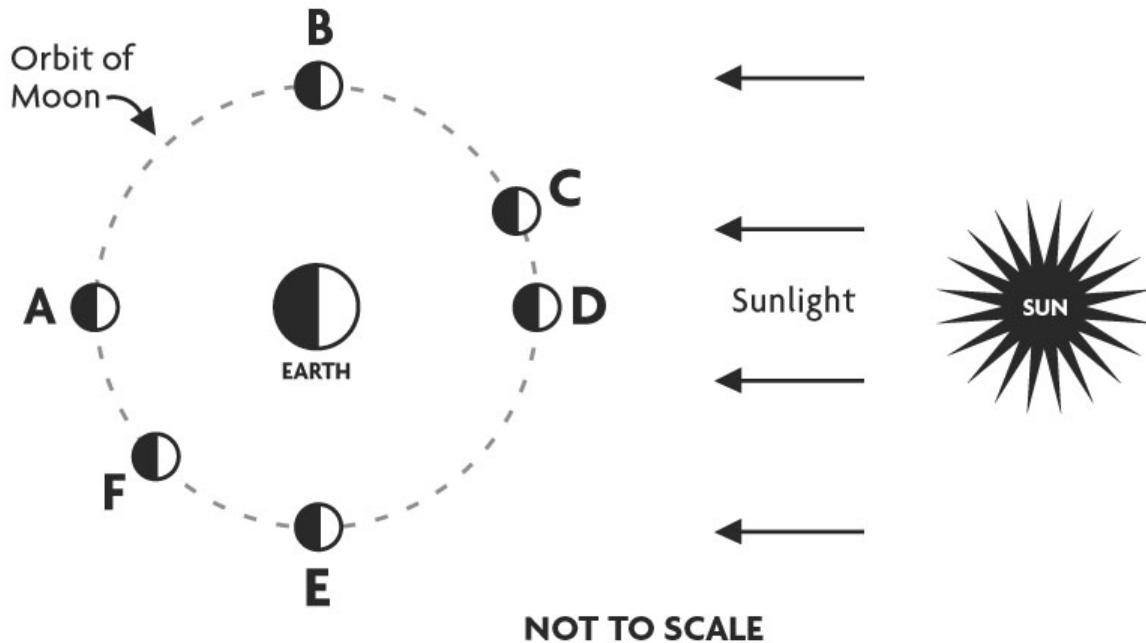


Astronomy Ranking Task: Phases of the Moon

Exercise #2

Description: The figure below shows a “top view” of the Sun, Earth and six different positions (A - F) of the Moon during one orbit around Earth. Note that the distances shown for the Sun to Earth and for Earth to the Moon are not drawn to scale.



Ranking Instructions: Rank (from greatest to least) the amount of the Moon’s illuminated surface that is visible from Earth at each of the six positions (A – F) shown.

Ranking Order: Greatest 1 ____ 2 ____ 3 ____ 4 ____ 5 ____ 6 ____ Least

Or, the amount of the Moon’s illuminated surface visible from Earth is the same in all positions.
____ (indicate with check mark).

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:
